



May 6, 2009

Honorable Mike Coffman
Member of Congress
1508 Longworth Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Coffman:

The I-25/Arapahoe Road Coalition is writing to you in support of you requesting federal highway discretionary funding for the I-25/Arapahoe Road Interchange in the upcoming Authorization of the Federal Aid Highway and Transit programs, otherwise known as SAFETEA-LU. **This project is specifically supported by the governmental agencies of Arapahoe County, City of Greenwood Village, City of Centennial, Douglas County, and Colorado Department of Transportation, as well as other business and homeowner groups.**

As you know, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee has instructed Members to answer 20 detailed questions regarding each highway or transit project that is submitted by the Member. Attached are the answers to those questions provided by our professional staff.

This Grade F (failing) interchange was supposed to be upgraded and completed in connection with the T-REX project, but for budget cutting reasons was dropped about half-way through the process. Now with this successful project implemented, the higher volume of traffic and resulting congestion is making a bad situation worse. We are working with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and their support staff has been very helpful, but even though this project is on Denver Regional Council of Government's (DRCOG) Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) AND the State's TIP it has still not reached the level of priority that we believe it deserves. For this reason, we are asking for you to assist us in acquiring these federal High Priority Project funds.

The local agencies of Arapahoe County, City of Greenwood Village and City of Centennial are requesting your support in securing \$25 million of High Priority Project funding with the surface transportation authorization legislation. This request along with the local match of \$5,000,000 will be utilized to complete the Costilla Connection associated with the project. The Costilla Connection is estimated to cost \$55.6 Million and therefore the remaining \$25.6 million is anticipated to come from a combination of STP-Metro funds (\$20.480 Million) and local match of (\$5.120 Million). Also, funding is available to the local agencies

Honorable Mike Coffman
May 6, 2009
Page 2

through a public/private partnership with the Southeast Public Improvement Metropolitan District (SPIMD). The District has agreed to allocate funding towards improvements at the I-25 and Arapahoe Road Interchange.

It is our understanding that you have agreed to accept this project and to submit it for funding to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee by May 8, 2009. For that we are very grateful and if you need any further information please do not hesitate to be in touch with us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Nancy N. Sharpe". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Nancy N. Sharpe
Mayor
City of Greenwood Village

Attachment (1)

cc: Ian Lyle